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Economic and Social Council

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2014 session
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Ibrahim O. A. Dabbashi (Libya), on the basis of informal consultations

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and recalling other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect those principles,

Recalling its decision 2014/211 of 23 April 2014, in which it decided that the theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of its 2014 session would be "The future of humanitarian affairs: towards greater inclusiveness, coordination, interoperability and effectiveness" and that it would convene two panels, on the topics "Effective humanitarian assistance" and "Serving the needs of people in complex emergencies",

Expressing deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity posed by the consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, by the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis and by the regional food crises and continuing food insecurity, and the potential of those challenges to increase the need for resources for disaster risk reduction, preparedness and humanitarian assistance, including in developing countries,

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

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Expressing grave concern at the increase in the number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those associated with natural hazards and complex emergencies, at the increased impact of natural disasters and at the frequently protracted displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies, recognizing the need for burden sharing in this regard, and noting with appreciation efforts at the national and international levels that promote national capacity-building to address complex challenges in this regard,

Condemning the increasing number of attacks and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, facilities, assets and supplies, including medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, transports and facilities, and expressing deep concern about the negative implications of such attacks for the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations,

Noting with grave concern that violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner,

Emphasizing that building and strengthening resilience at the local, national, and regional levels is critical to reducing the impact of disasters, including by saving lives, reducing suffering, mitigating damage to property and providing a more predictable and effective delivery of assistance and relief, and in this regard, while recognizing that building resilience is a long-term development process, stressing the need for continued investment in preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response capacity,

Emphasizing also the importance of improving information-sharing among Member States and the United Nations system and, where appropriate, with relevant humanitarian and development organizations, about risks that can lead to humanitarian crises, and of investing in building capacity, in particular for developing countries, to analyse, manage and reduce such risks and vulnerabilities to hazards, as well as, where appropriate, to improve risk analysis and its use in planning,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development and that emergency measures should be accompanied by development measures as a step towards sustainable development of affected States, and in this regard highlighting the importance of closer cooperation between national stakeholders, including the private sector, as appropriate, and humanitarian and development actors,

Noting the contribution, as appropriate, of relevant regional and subregional organizations in the provision of humanitarian assistance within their region, upon the request of the affected State,

Recognizing that volunteerism can make an important contribution to community and nationally led efforts at all stages of humanitarian action,

Noting the importance of identifying best practices and opportunities to enhance the effective interaction and coordination between the United Nations and humanitarian organizations, donors, affected Governments, civil society, the private sector and other relevant actors, and to make the best use of their expertise, available capacities, comparative advantages and resources with the overall aim of providing effective humanitarian assistance,

Recognizing the need for the United Nations system and its partners to improve and strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system in support of national efforts, and taking note of the efforts made by the United Nations and its partners, including through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/1, in which the Assembly stated that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, especially its Second and Third Committees, need to consider and take steps towards the rationalization of their agendas, with a view to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Requests* Member States, relevant organizations and other relevant actors to ensure that all aspects and stages of humanitarian response address the specific needs, challenges and coping capacities of women, girls, men and boys, on an equal basis, taking into consideration age and disability, including through the improved collection, analysis, reporting and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, taking into account, inter alia, the information provided by States, and emphasizes the importance of the full participation of women in decision-making processes related to humanitarian response;

3. *Encourages* Member States, with the support of relevant organizations, as appropriate, to strengthen leadership and commitment to preventing and mitigating humanitarian crises, including through integrating risk management into national development plans, and in this regard, encourages humanitarian and development organizations, in cooperation with Governments, to continue to strengthen efforts to address the underlying risks and vulnerabilities, including through considering risk management and resilience strategies;

4. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should continue to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries, encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships, as well as by strengthening their capacity to build resilience, mitigate disaster risks and prepare for and respond to disasters, and also encourages Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance;

[1] A/69/80-E/2014/68.

5. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian organizations, together with development organizations, to continue to support national leadership in building in-country preparedness capacity, including under the Common Framework for Preparedness of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Development Group and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

6. *Encourages* Member States, as well as relevant regional and international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to continue to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, especially for those countries that are particularly vulnerable;

7. *Urges* States to assess their progress in strengthening preparedness levels for humanitarian response, with a view to increasing efforts to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[2] in particular priority 5 thereof, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities, including the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to give increased priority to and mainstream disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, in particular through supporting national and local efforts in that regard;

8. *Encourages* States, the United Nations system and all stakeholders to continue to engage in the consultations on the successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action, culminating at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015;

9. *Welcomes* the growing number of initiatives undertaken at the regional and national levels to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to take further steps to review and strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines, and welcomes the valuable support that national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies are providing to their Governments in this area, in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and other partners;

10. *Encourages* efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination of United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations and donor countries with the affected State, with a view to planning and delivering emergency humanitarian assistance in ways that are supportive of early recovery as well as sustainable rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts;

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[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

11. *Also encourages* efforts to provide safe and enabling learning environments and quality education in humanitarian emergencies, in particular for the well-being of all girls and boys, to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

12. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to lead the efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance, urges relevant United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and relevant development actors, including civil society, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance, and encourages Member States to improve their cooperation with the Office;

13. *Also requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to improve dialogue with Member States on the relevant processes, activities and deliberations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

14. *Encourages* United Nations humanitarian organizations and other relevant organizations, while strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, to continue to work in close coordination with national Governments, taking into account the primary role of the affected State in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of such assistance within its territory;

15. *Requests* the United Nations system and other relevant actors to continue to improve and strengthen humanitarian coordination mechanisms, notably at the field level, including the existing cluster coordination mechanism, and by improving partnership and coordination with national and local authorities, including the use of national/local coordination mechanisms, where possible;

16. *Welcomes* the continued efforts to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity in order to provide a timely, predictable, coordinated and accountable response to humanitarian needs, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts in that regard, in consultation with Member States, including by strengthening support to and improving the identification, selection and training of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators;

17. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to identify solutions to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Development Group to strengthen the resident coordinator system, on which the humanitarian coordinator system is based, in order to ensure full implementation of the management and accountability system of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system;

18. *Also requests* the United Nations to continue to develop specialist technical expertise and capacity to fill gaps in critical humanitarian programming and to procure emergency relief material rapidly and cost-effectively, and locally when appropriate, in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination and provision of international humanitarian assistance;

19. *Recognizes* the benefits of the effectiveness of the humanitarian response, including by engaging and coordinating with relevant humanitarian actors, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and the private sector, encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts, which can cooperate effectively to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence, and also encourages the United Nations system to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

20. *Notes* the increasing challenges facing both Member States, in particular developing countries, and the international humanitarian response system in responding effectively to all humanitarian emergencies, in particular the underfunded and forgotten emergencies, and in that regard stresses the need to enhance existing partnerships and build new ones, strengthen financing mechanisms, broaden the donor base and engage other partners to ensure adequate resources for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

21. *Expresses concern* at the challenges related to, inter alia, safe access to and use of food and shelter, water and sanitation, health care, fuel, firewood and alternative energy and telecommunications in humanitarian emergencies, and notes with appreciation initiatives at the national and international levels that promote effective cooperation in that regard;

22. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to assess and improve, together with other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, how innovation can be more systematically promoted through increasing investment in research and development leading to innovation, identified and integrated into humanitarian action in a sustainable manner, and promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, processes and evaluations, including those from recent large-scale natural disasters, that could improve the effectiveness and quality of humanitarian response, and in this regard encourages all relevant stakeholders to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities, including through access to information and communication technologies;

23. *Requests* the United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of and make further progress in respect of strategic planning and common humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by those organizations;

24. *Encourages* Member States to improve data collection and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of information with humanitarian organizations of the United Nations, in order to support preparedness efforts and to improve the effectiveness of needs-based humanitarian response, and encourages the United

Nations system, as appropriate, and other relevant actors to continue to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities for data collection and analysis;

25. *Recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need to enhance the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

26. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations so that their needs are appropriately addressed;

27. *Urges* all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance to fully commit to and duly respect the guiding principles contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182, including the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality as well as the principle of independence, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 58/114 of 17 December 2003;

28. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow humanitarian personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

29. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law;

30. *Calls upon* all States and parties to comply fully with the provisions of international humanitarian law, including all the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[3] in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in order to protect and assist civilians in occupied territories, and in that regard urges the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen humanitarian assistance to civilians in those situations;

31. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including food, shelter, health, clean water, education and protection, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources with the aim of ensuring the immediate restoration of safe conditions of life, alleviating the immediate effects of humanitarian emergencies and contributing towards long-term recovery and reconstruction, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

32. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[4] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building efforts of States;

33. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, premises, facilities, equipment, transports and supplies operating within their borders, and in other territories under their effective control, recognizes the need for appropriate collaboration between humanitarian actors and relevant authorities of the affected State in matters related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to enhance the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory or in other territories under their effective control do not operate with impunity and are brought to justice as provided for by national laws and in accordance with obligations under international law;

34. *Urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for victims of such violence, and also calls for a more effective response in that regard;

35. *Encourages* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include as part of their risk management strategy the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and to promote acceptance by local communities, and all relevant actors, in order to enable humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with humanitarian principles;

36. *Emphasizes* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, reaffirms the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles;

37. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector, civil society and other relevant entities to make new contributions and to consider increasing and diversifying their existing contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms, including consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds such as the country-based pooled funds, based on and in proportion to assessed needs, as a means of ensuring flexible, predictable, timely, needs-based and, where possible, multi-year, non-earmarked and additional resources to meet global humanitarian challenges, encourages donors to adhere to the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship,[5] reiterates that contributions for humanitarian assistance should be provided in a way which is not to the detriment of

[4] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[5] A/58/99-E/2003/94, annex II.

resources made available for international cooperation for development, and recognizes the need for more diversified funding bases, and encourages the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to consider making further use of multi-year consolidated appeals, as appropriate;

38. *Recognizes* that building preparedness is a long-term investment that will contribute to the achievement of humanitarian and development objectives, including a reduction in the need for humanitarian response, and therefore further encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to provide effective, predictable, flexible and adequate funding for preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities, including from humanitarian and development budgets, and stresses that international preparedness efforts reinforce and support national and local response capacities and institutions;

39. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, aimed at sharing knowledge and best practices in the humanitarian field to improve the coordination, capacity and effectiveness of humanitarian response, and requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to ensure an inclusive, consultative and transparent preparatory process;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in his next report to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

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2014 session
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*
Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the Council, Martin Sajdik (Austria), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution E/2014/L.3

Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 67/226 of 21 December 2012 and 68/229 of 20 December 2013 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/5 of 12 July 2013, in which key system-wide policy orientations were established for development cooperation at both the Headquarters and the country levels,

Reaffirming the importance of the timely and full implementation of system-wide policy orientations established in General Assembly resolution 67/226, on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling the critical role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination, monitoring and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented in a full and timely manner on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006, 65/285 of 29 June 2011, 67/226 of 21 December 2012 and 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

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Noting the changes to the Economic and Social Council cycle,

Recognizing the importance and catalytic role of predictable official development assistance for international development, noting that global official development assistance increased steadily from 1997 to 2010, and that official development assistance increased in 2013, and noting with concern that official development assistance declined in 2011 and 2012,

Introduction

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;[1]

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and all relevant entities, to establish a comprehensive and coherent monitoring and reporting framework for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

3. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to make every effort to continue to improve monitoring and data collection methods with a view to contributing towards further enhancement of the analytical quality of the report of the Secretary-General on operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4. *Requests* the United Nations development system to provide quality inputs and appropriate updates to the report of the Secretary-General with a view to continuing to improve high-quality analytical reporting on the operational activities for development, while stressing the need to minimize transaction costs associated with reporting;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to further improve the analytical and evidence-based quality of the report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including by addressing challenges and presenting options for enhancing the implementation of system-wide mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

6. *Also calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management fully align their efforts to monitor implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, and align their work in the area of operational activities for development with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations funds and programmes that have not already done so to consolidate their annual reporting on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review within their reporting on the implementation of their strategic plans;

8. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to strengthen the quality of their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council;

[1] A/69/63-E/2014/10.

9. *Reiterates its encouragement* to entities of the United Nations development system with operational activities for development that have not done so to fully align their strategic plans and their strategic planning and budgeting cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, taking into account their respective mandates;

Funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

10. *Reiterates* that the core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in this regard recognizes the need for organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources and to report to the Economic and Social Council in 2015, as part of their regular reporting on the measures taken to address this imbalance;

11. *Notes* that the majority of the increase in funding for the United Nations development system between 1997 and 2012 was in the form of non-core resources, resulting in an imbalance between core and non-core resources, and notes with concern that the percentage of core resources in the overall funding for operational activities has declined, representing only 28 per cent in 2012;

12. *Also notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of the United Nations development system and complement core resources to support operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while noting the need to make non-core resources more flexible and aligned with strategic plans and national priorities and recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources;

13. *Recognizes* that non-core resources pose challenges, in particular restricted earmarked funding such as single-donor project-specific funding, through potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, competition and overlap among entities and providing disincentives for pursuing an Organization-wide focus, strategic positioning and coherence, and may also potentially distort programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes;

14. *Expresses its regret* that the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on taking concrete measures to broaden the donor base was not fulfilled, and requests the United Nations funds and programmes and encourages specialized agencies that have not done so to report to a 2014 session of their governing bodies on concrete measures taken to broaden the donor base and increase the number of countries and other partners making contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce the reliance of the system on a limited number of donors;

15. *Also expresses its regret* that the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the critical mass of core resources was not fulfilled, and reiterates the request to the United Nations funds and programmes to define common principles for the concept of the critical mass of core resources, which may include the level of resources adequate to respond to the needs of the programme countries and to produce the results expected in strategic plans, including administrative, management and programme costs, in consultation with Member States, and to present specific proposals in 2014 with a view to a decision in 2014;

16. *Stresses* the need to avoid the use of core/regular resources to subsidize non-core/extrabudgetary financed activities, and reaffirms that the guiding principle governing the financing of all non-programme costs should be based on full cost recovery, from core and non-core funding sources proportionally, and in this regard notes the timelines agreed by the executive boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for an independent and external assessment to be performed in 2016 on the consistency and alignment of the new cost recovery methodology with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

17. *Recalls the request* contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, as appropriate, to organize structured dialogues with Member States in 2014 on how to finance the development results agreed in the new strategic planning cycle of the respective entities, with a view to making non-core resources more predictable and less restricted/earmarked, broadening the donor base and improving the adequacy and predictability of resource flows;

18. *Welcomes* the progress made by United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to ensure that available and projected core and non-core resources are consolidated within an integrated budgetary framework, based on the priorities of their respective strategic plans, and encourages all agencies that have not already done so to develop such integrated frameworks in their next budget cycle;

Contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations to national capacity development and development effectiveness

19. *Reaffirms the request* by the General Assembly to the United Nations development system to develop, for the consideration of Member States, a common approach for measuring progress in capacity development, including measures to ensure sustainability, as well as to develop specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in capacity development to achieve national development goals and strategies, and invites the Secretary-General to provide comprehensive and evidence-based updates on measures taken in this regard in his 2015 annual report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, to include in his regular report to the Economic and Social Council in 2015, in consultation with Member States, information on steps taken by entities of the United Nations development system to strengthen and use national capacities and make proposals to address any obstacles;

21. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes of the United Nations development system and invites specialized agencies to consider the findings and observations related to national capacity gaps repeatedly highlighted by programme countries to be addressed through the work of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including through the strengthening and use of national capacities, and to report to their governing bodies in 2015 with recommendations for implementation in this regard;

Poverty eradication

22. *Welcomes* the integration of poverty eradication as the overarching priority of the strategic plans of some United Nations system organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

23. *Reaffirms* the call by the General Assembly, contained in its resolution 67/226, for the organizations of the United Nations development system to assign the highest priority to the eradication of poverty, contained in its resolution 67/226, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to include in their regular reporting to the Economic and Social Council information on steps taken, in accordance with their mandates, on the scaling up of efforts to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger, sharing of good practices, lessons learned, strategies, programmes and policies, such as capacity-building, employment generation, education, vocational training, rural development and the mobilization of resources, which aim at achieving poverty eradication and promoting the active participation of those living in poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies;

South-South cooperation

24. *Recalls the requests* contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on strengthening South-South cooperation, in this regard notes the progress made by some entities of the United Nations development system in mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation into their key policies, strategic frameworks, operational activities and budgets, and welcomes decision 18/1 of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, which contained, inter alia, measures to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, including through improved allocation of resources across the United Nations development system, including the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to present as part of the annual report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2015, recommendations based on a thorough analysis of obstacles to and incentives for the scaling up of United Nations support for South-South cooperation, including lessons learned from the implementation of successful South-South cooperation projects and programmes;

26. *Decides* that the President of the Economic and Social Council will include in the agenda of the Council's operational activities segment in 2015 an interactive segment with relevant United Nations and external stakeholders on lessons learned from the implementation of South-South cooperation projects and programmes and the potential benefits for the United Nations development system and participating countries;

27. *Reaffirms* the call in paragraph 77 of General Assembly resolution 67/226 upon all countries in a position to do so, as well as other stakeholders, to increase their support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, especially by providing technical assistance and mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to clarify for Member States, as part of their regular briefings, the role of all stakeholders and the action taken so far by such entities in this regard;

28. *Recalls* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the heads of specialized agencies, the United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions to pay special attention to the implementation of South-South cooperation projects, including those managed or supported by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Economic and Social Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

Transition from relief to development

29. *Reaffirms the request* by the General Assembly contained in its resolution 67/226 to the United Nations development system to accelerate progress in deepening coordination between Secretariat entities and members of the United Nations development system, inter alia, through the simplification and harmonization of programming instruments and processes and business practices, with a view to providing effective, efficient and responsive support to national efforts in countries in transition from relief to development, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Economic and Social Council comprehensive and evidence-based updates on progress in this regard;

Gender equality and women's empowerment

30. *Welcomes* efforts made by entities of the United Nations development system to implement the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and requests those entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to accelerate efforts to implement the Action Plan with a view to ensuring that all relevant entities meet its performance standards by 2017;

Resident coordinator system

31. *Notes with appreciation* progress achieved in implementing the cost-sharing agreement for the resident coordinator system, notes the funding gap expected for the resident coordinator system for 2014 and 2015, in this regard requests entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to take appropriate actions to implement the agreement, subject to the approval of their governing bodies and without impacting programme delivery, including by paying their contribution in full, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Economic and Social Council updates on agency-specific progress in this regard;

"Delivering as one"

32. *Welcomes* the finalization of the standard operating procedures for countries adopting "Delivering as one" on a voluntary basis, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes, and strongly encourages the specialized agencies, to take appropriate actions to fully and coherently implement the standard operating procedures, including the United Nations Development Group Plan of Action for Headquarters, and to report annually on progress in this regard at the annual meeting of their respective governing bodies;

33. *Requests* the United Nations development system to provide an update to Member States on the process for review and approval of common country

programme documents at the operational activities segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2015;

34. *Recognizes* that pooled funding mechanisms are important tools in advancing "Delivering as one" in countries wishing to adopt this approach, and encourages donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to prioritize the use of such mechanisms in order to maximize the impact of the "Delivering as one" reforms in these countries;

Simplification and harmonization of business practices

35. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to present the comprehensive joint action plans for the simplification and harmonization of business practices to their respective executive boards, and invites the United Nations funds and programmes to undertake a thorough review of progress in simplification and harmonization of business practices;

36. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes to present an update, in 2014, on progress towards a proposal on the common definition of operating costs and common and standardized system of cost control, paying due attention to their different business models, with a view to taking a decision on this issue in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2015, as part of his regular reporting, on progress in achieving full system-wide interoperability of enterprise resources planning systems in 2016 in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

38. *Notes with concern* that plans containing concrete proposals for pilot common United Nations service centres in consenting programme countries that represent the diversity of United Nations presence in all regions were not presented to the substantive session of 2014 of the Economic and Social Council, as requested in its resolution 2013/5, and in this regard reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure adequate and evidence-based planning and design of common United Nations service centres by including such concrete proposals in plans for review by the Council in 2015;

39. *Notes* that some entities of the United Nations development system are establishing agency-specific service centres, and in this regard calls upon all relevant members of the system to participate in the establishment of the common service centres, with the intent that such centres provide long-term and system-wide cost savings and ensure higher quality, more effective and cost-efficient support services in all programme countries;

Results-based management

40. *Notes with concern* that there was no comprehensive reporting to the Economic and Social Council in 2013, with a view to implementation in 2014, on progress made towards a more robust, coherent and harmonized approach to operational activities for development, focused on results, which would streamline and improve the planning, monitoring, measurement and reporting on system-wide results, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with

Member States, to update the Economic and Social Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2015, as part of his regular reporting;

Evaluation of operational activities

41. *Welcomes* the new policy for independent system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,[2] and notes the decision by the General Assembly contained in its resolution 68/229 to launch two pilot evaluations in the current quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycle;

42. *Calls upon* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to contribute resources to the implementation of the two pilot independent system-wide evaluations, and requests the Secretary-General to report on progress in this regard in 2015 as part of his regular reporting to the Economic and Social Council;

43. *Calls upon* the members of the United Nations development system to further intensify efforts to assist programme countries to strengthen their national evaluation capacities for the monitoring and evaluation of operational activities for development;

Follow-up

44. *Recognizes* its role in providing guidance to the United Nations development system for the implementation of operational activities for development on a system-wide basis, welcomes the dialogues held at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2014 regarding the role of the United Nations development system in the changing development landscape and the need to align the United Nations system to address emerging challenges, in this regard decides to convene a transparent and inclusive dialogue involving Member States and all relevant stakeholders on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system, taking into account the post-2015 development agenda, including on the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, capacity and impact of the United Nations development system, partnership approaches and organizational arrangements, decides that the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council will provide updates on progress in this regard to the operational activities segment in 2015 and 2016, and requests the Secretary-General to reflect these discussions in his report on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to the General Assembly for consideration and action by Member States in the 2016 quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

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[2] A/68/658-E/2014/7.

United Nations E/2014/L.20

Economic and Social Council

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2 July 2014

Original: English

2014 session
Item 16 (d) of the provisional agenda*
Economic and environmental questions: human settlements

Bolivia (Plurinational State of): draft resolution**

Human settlements

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions and decisions on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[1]

Recalling also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled "The future we want", and 67/216 of 21 December 2012 and 68/239 of 27 December 2013, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)",

Acknowledging the work of UN-Habitat towards attaining sustainable urban development and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda as well as other relevant mandates and internationally agreed goals and targets,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[2]

2. *Also takes note* of the focus of the first ever integration segment of the Economic and Social Council on sustainable urbanization, held from 27 to 29 May 2014, and its key messages regarding the transformational power of sustainable cities and human settlements to advance sustainable development, which can be achieved only by addressing and incorporating all the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and their interlinkages and applying a holistic approach to sustainable urbanization, city development and human settlements, with a longer-term vision and integrated approach;

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] E/2014/64.

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3. *Encourages* Governments to give appropriate consideration to the role of urbanization and human settlements in sustainable development in their national development plans in order to ensure coordinated implementation of different sectoral policies within cities and human settlements in general and to formulate and implement urban planning policies;

4. *Reiterates* its invitation to Governments to further promote sustainable urbanization and the role of local authorities and to consider the environmentally sustainable, socially inclusive and economically productive roles of cities and human settlements in the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining sustainable urban and human settlements;

6. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions;

7. *Encourages* Governments to accelerate their preparations for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), including national reports assessing the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and other relevant internationally agreed goals and targets and identifying future policy directions for inclusion in a "New Urban Agenda";

8. *Affirms* Governing Council of UN-Habitat resolution 24/14 of 19 April 2013 on the inputs and support required for the preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) to be met by regular budget and voluntary contributions, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to seek voluntary support for this purpose and calls upon Member States to provide such support;

9. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Ecuador to host the conference in Quito in 2016;

10. *Encourages* the international community, financial institutions, the private sector, foundations and Member States in a position to do so to provide financial support for Habitat III, including for the preparatory process, through voluntary contributions to the Habitat III trust fund;

11. *Decides* to transmit to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-ninth session the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[2]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council for consideration at its substantive session of 2015 a report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

United Nations E/2014/L.21

Economic and Social Council

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2014 session
Item 17 (e) of the provisional agenda*
Social and human rights questions: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Armenia, ** **Chad,** ** **Georgia and Uruguay**: draft decision**

Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly requested the Council to establish the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as subsequent Assembly resolutions by which the membership of the Executive Committee was increased:

(a) Takes note of the requests to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees contained in the letter dated 15 May 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[1] the note verbale dated 3 March 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[2] the note verbale dated 10 December 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[3] and the letter dated 18 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;[4]

(b) Recommends that the General Assembly, at its sixty-ninth session, decide on the question of enlarging the membership of the Executive Committee from 94 to 98 States.

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

** In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/2014/79.

[2] E/2014/48.

[3] E/2014/62.

[4] E/2014/47.

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